(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Patients turned back as machines rot" appearing in the "Hundustan times", dated Aprii 4, 1991; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the action proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). Yes, sir. It has been reported by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, that some of the machines, viz., ERG&VER, Argon and Krypton Laser, Ultra Sound and specular Microscope had gone out of order. However, these machines have since either been replaced by new ones or got repaired by the Institute. Every effort is made to maintain the services in a satisfactory manner.

[*Translation*]

Irregularities in Medical Store Depot

4253. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item "Kuch Dava Companyan Pee Rahti Hai Khas Meharbani" appearing in the 'Jansatta', dated October 25, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) and (c). the points in the news item were found to be incorrect and a rejoinder/ denial has been sent to the Chief Editor of Jansatta on 13.11.1991.

Selection of Pilots in Air India

4254. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem "Air India: Pilot Chayan Mein Pakshapat" appearing in "Navbharat Times" dated September 11, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and reaction of the government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Applications for recruitment of trainee pilots/com-pilots in Air India are invited through advertisement on all India basis. Vayudoot and IGRUA are also requested to forward applications of these desirous to join Air India. The candidates are required to appear for a written test. On successful completion of the written test, Candidates are interviewed by a panel and selection is made purely on merit.

[*English*]

Boards of Management of Indian Airlines/Air India

4255. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to re-constitute the Boards of Management of the Indian Airlines and the Air India;